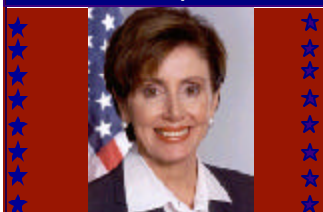


U.S. House of Representatives



Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi

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CONTACT US!

Office of the Democratic Leader
The Capitol
H204
Washington, DC 20515
ATTN: Outreach Office

Phone: 202-225-0100
Fax: 202-226-0939

E-mail:
Dem_Leader_Pelosi@mail.house.gov
<http://democraticleader.house.gov>
<http://www.HouseDemocrats.gov>

The Pelosi Report

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ISSUE 13
JULY 2004

Dear Friends:

This edition of **The Pelosi Report** includes highlights of Congressional Democrats' 2nd Annual African American Leadership Summit: From Brown to the Ballot and an overview overview of legislative proposals and initiatives taking place in Congress. We were also delighted to welcome a new Member this month, Representative G.K. Butterfield from North Carolina's first congressional district.

As Congress heads into August recess, Democrats are energized and united in our efforts to fight against the Republican Majority's assaults on our children, working families and seniors.

I encourage you to review this bulletin and share the information with your constituency and other leaders in your community.

Sincerely,

Nancy Pelosi

House Democratic Leader

From Brown to the Ballot



On Thursday, July 15, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle, Senator Hillary Clinton and Rep. Elijah Cummings, Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and other Members of Congress hosted more than 150 African American leaders at the Second Annual African American Leadership Summit.

The daylong event, titled, "From Brown to the Ballot" was held on Capitol Hill and provided a forum for examining issues of critical importance to African Americans, such as education, jobs and the economy, voting rights and health care.

Donna Brazile, Chair of the Democratic National Committee Voting Rights Institute, Dr. Mary Frances Berry, Chair, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, the Honorable Rodney E. Slater, former Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation, Dr. William Spriggs, Executive Director, National Urban League Institute for Opportunity and Equality, and Rev. Jeffrey I. Johnson, Youth Pastor, Empowerment Temple AME Church participated in a panel discussion on ways that African Americans have been affected by the Brown v. Board Education decision and the Civil Rights Act. Keynote speaker Dennis Archer, President of the American Bar Association, spoke about the critical issues facing African Americans in the criminal justice system and the importance of providing a quality education to every child.

Leader Pelosi reaffirmed Democrats' commitment to build on the relationship with the African American community stating, "We are committed to making the necessary long-term investments to ensure equality and opportunity for all Americans, from our schools to our workplaces. And as we do, we will fight to protect the right to vote against any attempt to undermine the Voting Rights Act. Every vote counts, and every vote must be counted."



Leader Pelosi and Rep. G.K. Butterfield (D-NC)

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Legislative Update

☆☆☆☆☆

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In July, the bipartisan 9/11 Commission released its unanimous report. House Democrats salute the Commission for its excellent work, for its leadership, its patriotism, and its service to our country, and we are pleased that this report has been made public. We owe it to the families to use this report to focus our efforts so we can ensure that this type of attack never happens again.

Democrats believe that Congress should move immediately to address the recommendations of the Commission. We hope the Republican majority will move forward in a bipartisan fashion to make these changes.

Democrats want to make America strong at home and respected in the world. Democrats want to refocus our efforts on defeating international terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda. We are fighting to strengthen our intelligence capabilities. And we are ready to do what must be done to protect our homeland.

Election Protection



The right to vote, and to have one's vote counted accurately and fairly, is the most basic right in this country. As public concern continues to rise over the potential for serious problems with the national elections in November, Leader Pelosi and a group of leaders from both Houses of Congress asked for a thorough independent review of the threat. Following the Congressional Democrats' day-long African American Leadership Summit on July 15th, Congressional Democrats asked the federal government's General Accountability Office (GAO) to look at specific concerns about access to the ballot box this fall.

In the letter, Congressional leaders requested a thorough study of problems in all 50 states and urged the GAO to complete its work quickly - by September 15 - so that issues identified can be addressed before Election Day.

The letter was signed by: Senate Democratic Leader Daschle (SD), House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (CA), Senate Steering and Coordination Chair Hillary Rodham Clinton (NY), Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Elijah Cummings (MD), Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick Leahy (VT), House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers (MI), Congressional Hispanic Caucus Chairman Ciro Rodriguez (TX), and Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Chairman Mike Honda (CA).

Tools You Can Use

The Bush Budget Shortchanges African Americans



Fulfilling the Promise: 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board



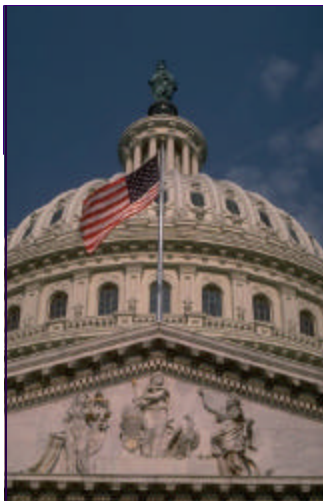
Policy Issues Overview: Democrats and African Americans



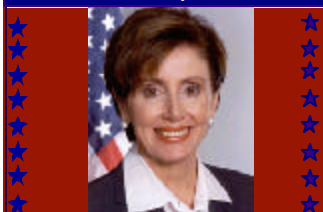
To receive
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American Community
contact:

Tracie Pough
tracie.pough@mail.house.gov
202.225.0100 (ph)
202.226.0939 (fx)

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